

The Anglican Church of St. Peter, Quamichan  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany - January 31, 2021  
CELTIC SERVICE

People of God in this place and in all places, we give thanks that you have joined us for worship, and we welcome you to the Anglican Church of St. Peter, Quamichan. With many churches across the country and around the world, we observe this season of Epiphany and doing so with this service from the Liturgy of the Holy Island of Iona.

**Opening Acknowledgment:**

Officiant: In this time and place, we gather on the unceded ancestral territories of the Coast Salish people and the Cowichan Tribes.  
In this time and place we gather in the name of the living God.  
In this time and place we gather with the community of faith around the globe and across the ages  
In this time and place we are not alone, but one in Christ  
In this time and place Hallowed, expectant, one people in God  
**All: In this time and place, heaven and earth are one. In the name of the Holy and Blessed One, Creator, Redeemer and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Hymn: Thou Whose Almighty Word**

**Opening Responses**

Leader: In the beginning, when it was very dark, God said, "let there be light."  
**All: And there was light.**  
Leader: In the beginning, when it was very quiet, the Word was with God.  
**All: And what God was, the Word was.**  
Leader: When the time was right, God sent the Son.  
**All: He came among us, he was one of us.**  
Leader: O God, who brought us to the bright light of this new day  
**All: Bring us to the guiding light of eternity.**

**Call to Prayer**

Officiant: We gather in God's name.  
**All: We claim Christ's promised presence.**

**Collect of the Day**

Officiant: God be with you.  
**All: And also, with you.**  
Officiant: Let us pray.  
**All: Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**  
Officiant: I invite you to settle your hearts and minds and be attentive as we listen to Holy Wisdom.

**Scripture: Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

**Psalm 111**

1 Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, \* **in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.**

2 Great are the deeds of the Lord! \* **they are studied by all who delight in them.**

3 His work is full of majesty and splendor, \* **and his righteousness endures for ever.**

4 He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; \* **the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.**

5 He gives food to those who fear him; \* **he is ever mindful of his covenant.**

6 He has shown his people the power of his works \* **in giving them the lands of the nations.**

7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; \* **all his commandments are sure.**

8 They stand fast for ever and ever, \* **because they are done in truth and equity.**

9 He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant for ever; \* **holy and awesome is his Name.**

10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; \* **those who act accordingly have a good understanding; his praise endures for ever.**

**All: Generous and bountiful God, give us grace always to thank you and share your gifts with others, that the world may be filled with the joy of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Gospel: Mark 1:21-28**

**Homily** - The Rev. MJ D Leewis-Kirk, Incumbent

***Music for reflection***

**Affirmation of Faith:**

Deacon: Let us affirm our faith, as we say these words in the Celtic tradition.

**All: We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female. We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree. A man of sorrows, he died forsaken. He descended into the earth to the place of death. On the third day he rose from the tomb. He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present, and His kingdom will come on earth. We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the Church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and of eternal life. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

Leader: Let us pray.

Maker and Lover of us all, in the mystery of your kindness You have bound us to each other and called us to serve the earth and its people.

So, hear us as in this place of worship, we pray for the church to which we belong that we may ever be a center of faith, hospitality and imagination, modelling the future rather than lamenting the past.

We pray for Barry and Ansley our leadership team and for Bishop elect Anna. Here in our own community of St. Peter, we pray for MJ, Jim, Chris and Norah and all those whose gifts sustain this community (*pause*)

God, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Grateful for the life in our bodies, we pray for those whose lives are diminished by ill health, depression, grief or rejection, asking for the healing, the affirmation, the listening, which will encourage and restore them. We remember especially, Rocke, Sandee, Jennifer, Peter, Vera, Vital, Teresa, Frank, Pearl, Brian, Connie, Brandon and Connie (*pause*)

God, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Conscious of the peace of this place, we pray for those who have no peace because of war or the fear of war, or the threat of violence, or the grip of hunger, or the loss of hope. May the voice of the victims be heard and may the work of the peacemakers be blessed (*pause*)

God, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Surrounded by rugged and tender beauty, we pray for the earth, especially where it is damaged by human carelessness and threatened by human greed; and ask that we may learn to care for the earth as you do.

(*pause*)

God, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: I invite your prayers for those who have died. I invite your prayers for those who mourn. (*pause*)

God, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: I invite your prayers for those you carry in your heart. (*pause*)

God, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for governments around the world, may they be led to right actions and wise decisions. We remember especially, Justin our Prime Minister and John our Premier, Dr. Bonnie Henry, William, Chief of the Cowichan Tribes, and Al and Michelle our Mayors.

God, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: And because we are here to meet with Jesus, we join our words to those he taught us, saying,

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name; your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil; for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

**Hymn: Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness**

### Prayer of Confession and Restoration

Deacon: My sisters and brothers, not out of dread and fear but believing that God is faithful to forgive, let us rid ourselves of what we need to carry no longer.

**All: Eternal God, maker of the skies above, lowly Christ, born amidst the growing earth, Spirit of life, wind over the flowing waters, In earth, sea and sky, you are there. O hidden mystery, sun behind all suns, soul behind all souls, in everything we touch, in everyone we meet, your presence is around us, and we give you thanks. But when we have not touched but trampled you in creation, when we have not met but missed you in one another, when we have not received but rejected you in the poor, forgive us, and hear our plea for mercy.**

Officiant: Hear now the words of Jesus for all who are truly sorry and seek to renew their lives: your sins are forgiven. Go in peace and follow me. *(Pause)*

**All: Lead us now, O God, to acknowledge your costly generosity by living as forgiven people, until heaven and earth rejoice and the whole earth cries Glory through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Offering Prayer

Officiant: All that we have and all that we are, are God's gifts to us. So, here we return a token of our wealth asking that it and all we possess be used to God's glory.

**All: Blessed be God forever.**

### The Blessing

Leader: May the everlasting God shield you east and west and wherever you go.  
And the blessing of God be upon you

**All: The blessing of the God of life.**

Leader: The blessing of Christ be upon you,

**All: The blessing of the Christ of love.**

Leader: The blessing of the Spirit be upon you

**All: The blessing of the Spirit of grace.**

Leader: The blessing of the Trinity be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

### Hymn: Let There Be Light

#### Dismissal:

Leader: Let us go into the world, being the hands and heart of Christ for all that we meet!

**All: Thanks be to all that is Holy, Alleluia, Alleluia!**